

Musbury Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

PRESENT:

Cllr Colin Corbett
Cllr Peter Perryman
County Councillor Ian Hall
6 Parishioners

Cllr Matt Craker (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Paul Smith
Mrs Jo Boyce (Clerk)

Cllr Janet Albano
Cllr Ian McCoullough

- 1 **APOLOGIES** – Received and accepted from Cllr Knight
- 2 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held Monday 6th February 2023 were accepted as a true record and will be duly signed by Cllr Corbett.

POLICE REPORT – See Item 10 below.

- 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – There were none.

4 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS and COMMUNITY ISSUES**

- 4.1 **Elections** – The clerk reminded the meeting of the procedures and deadlines for the election on May 4th and the period of ‘purdah’ that runs from March 27th to May 4th.
- 4.2 **Clerk Position** – The clerk updated the meeting about a potential candidate for the position and the Council’s options if no-one could be found. **ACTION** Clerk to meet with candidate.
- 4.3 **Accounts Auditor** – Council agreed appointment of Martin Minter as the auditor for the Parish Annual accounts.
- 4.4 **Fixed Asset List** – Council reviewed the Fixed Asset List and agreed it was accurate.
- 4.5 **Risk Register** – Council reviewed the Risk Register with no changes proposed.
- 4.6 **DAAT** – The clerk outlined the communication from Axmouth Parish Council. After some discussion, the Council agreed to decline the offer of a joint venture to fund and instal a Night Landing Site on Axmouth Football pitch due to the distance from the village centre. **ACTION** Clerk to contact Axmouth clerk.

5 **ACCOUNTS**

- 5.1 **Transactions for March** – the following payments were proposed by Cllr Perryman and approved by Cllr Smith.

Clerk Salary & Expenses (March)	268.56	G
Clerk PAYE	7.60	G
Village Hall	40.00	G
M Craker (Allotment water tank)	10.46	A

- 5.2 **Recent Transactions and Balance** - The Clerk presented the February 2023 Treasurer’s Statements. The accounts had been reviewed by the Chair and all Councillors prior to the meeting and reconciled with the corresponding bank statements and were duly approved by the Council. Cllr Knight has checked the accounts, bank statements with the invoices and bank receipts. The Accounts were proposed by Cllr Craker and seconded by Cllr Corbett.

6. **PLANNING**

23/0350/FUL – Yew Tree House, Musbury, EX13 8AR - Extension to driveway, turning area and timber frame car port – Although the Council were not unanimous in the decision it was agreed that they would support the application. **ACTION** Clerk to add comments.

Blundles – The Chair requested that all keep an eye on any work taking place on this listed property and the clerk to contact EDDC is necessary.

Baxter's Farm – This property has now been sold.

Mountfield House Wall – The Council agreed to contact EDDC to request that the wall be inspected to ensure it was not a danger to members of the public. **ACTION** Clerk to contact EDDC.

7 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC SPACES

7.1 Community Playing Field update - The lottery bid has been submitted but no news yet. The date for installing the new balance trail area is either Saturday 25th March or 1st April. The first fundraising event has been organised, pub quiz on April 7th. Hoping everyone can be supportive! Next meeting is Saturday 1st April at 10am in the pub.

7.2 Doatshayne Lane – The dumping of earth in the ditch has been reported to DCC who have inspected the issue and are making an enquiry into why it happened.

8 P3

The bids for the coming year's work have been submitted to PROW.

Cllr Albano has been working on the 'Green Lane' between Doatshayne Lane and Bottom Lane. The lane was inspected, with photos taken and when assessed against PROW's criteria, was classed as very well maintained. It is designated as a Category 12 road – the lowest category of road in Devon but still a valuable local recreational resource. As such, it is managed by PROW and will be inspected every 3 years by them and a sign indicating that it is an unmetalled road will be installed.

Please contact Cllr Albano, Cllr Smith or the Clerk if you notice anything which needs attention on our footpaths.

9 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

No report sent from EDDC

Cllr Hall referred to the two reports he has circulated in March – highlighting transport - £2 bus fare is to continue until June, and his continuing lobbying on the 9A bus route – and support for young people – SEND and Alternative Provision in free schools and the Free Holiday activities.

Cllr Hall also reported that last year in Devon there was 37,000 tons of food waste, 79% of which is avoidable and 44% of which was still in its original packaging.

ACTION Clerk to add Cherry Sargant to email list to receive Cllr Hall's bulletins.

10 POLICE REPORT - This item was brought forward to the beginning of the meeting.

No crime figures were available.

The Chair introduced Sergeant Matt Beards and Inspector Phil Gray to the meeting and Cllr Craker explained that the Councillor advocate meeting he had attended with Cllr Hall had been a very positive start to the relationship and another meeting has been arranged which he is happy to continue to attend.

Inspector Gray introduced himself and Sergeant Beards and explained that they are the Rural East Devon Team and cover Honiton, Axminster, Sidmouth and Seaton. There is a concerted effort to get back to more community engagement and to increase visibility. Although there are no current trends in crime in the area, Inspector Gray made clear how important it is to report any crimes, including speeding, using the website as this allowed his team to make resources requests which could result in police action being taken to address the issues.

Inspector Gray thanked the parish for inviting him and Cllr Corbett thanked Cllr Craker, Inspector Gray and Sergeant Beards for their efforts and work.

11 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN

- 11.1 Cllr Craker requested that the link to report speeding be put on the noticeboard. **ACTION** Clerk to carry out.
- 11.2 Coronation – Cllr Corbett has permission from DCC in principle to use the paddock once again. Cllr Perryman proposed a public meeting to gauge interest in the idea and to bring together a group of people who are willing to organise the event. **ACTION** Cllr Perryman to arrange a meeting and publicise.
- 11.3 The Chair informed the meeting that Cllr Knight was leaving the area and would therefore be unable to continue being responsible for the flagpole. **ACTION** Cllr Craker to be Councillor responsible for it.

12 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

- 12.1 A parishioner commented about the state of Axminster Road due to twigs and bird mess making the surface somewhat hazardous. It was advised to report the problem to EDDC as they operate the small road-sweeper that visits occasionally.

With no further business outstanding, the Chair closed the meeting at 8:55pm

Proposed date of next meeting: Monday 15th May 2023 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

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Chairman **Date**